



STAFF REPORT

SAUSALITO CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA TITLE:

Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program Grant Proposals

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopt Resolutions of the City Council of the City of Sausalito

(A) Supporting and Authorizing the City Manager to Submit:

- (i) a Project Proposal to the County of Marin for a Grant from Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program Funds for Design Development of the South City Limits to Ferry Landing Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements Project, and
- (ii) a Project Proposal to the County of Marin for a Grant from Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program Funds for Replacement of Existing Steps, Stairs and Paths; and

(B) Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Necessary Funding Agreements on Behalf of the City

SUMMARY

Marin County received an initial allocation of funds under the 2005 Federal Transportation Bill known as SAFETEA-LU to implement a Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program (NMTTP). SAFETEA-LU was set to expire in 2009 but was extended by Congress. As a result of the extension, Marin County has received additional funds for the NMTTP. Staff's estimate is that the additional funding is 7.5 million dollars.

Staff understands that the County Board of Supervisors will be considering alternative uses for the additional NMTTP funds this month. The availability of the funds to the County provides the City an opportunity to propose two projects identified as priorities since the City's original NMTTP applications were prepared. The projects are: (a) design and construction of safety and operational improvements for bicyclists and pedestrians from the South City Limit to the Ferry Landing including Alexander Avenue, South Street, Second Street, Richardson and Bridgeway to complement improvements being planned by the National Park Service. This project addresses a need identified by many residents and other local stakeholders regarding bicycle and pedestrian safety; and (b) reconstruct existing steps, stairs and paths including the Valley Street stairs to Swede's Beach.

The South City Limit to Ferry Landing Project will involve public participation in design development, right-of-way evaluation, construction plans, draft specifications, environmental scoping and impact assessment, and permitting. It is anticipated that the project would likely involve widening of the right-of-way in some locations (primarily Alexander Avenue), construction of retaining walls, widening of the roadway paved section and construction or replacement of sidewalks along portions of the road segment. Segments identified for potential improvements are characterized on the attached annotated photograph sequences.

Other South City Limit to Ferry Landing improvements would include replacement or relocation of above ground vaults associated with underground utilities vaults, boxes, fire hydrants, water valves, etc. to improve traction, safety and ride quality for vehicles (including bicycles) as well as walk-quality and safety for pedestrians. The proposed project represents a critical link in a continuous, inter-connected route of travel for pedestrians and bicyclists to and from Sausalito, Fort Baker, and the Golden Gate Bridge. It is also a critical link in a priority interconnection between the Golden Gate Bridge and as far north as Windsor for bicycles and pedestrians. As such, it is not only an excellent candidate for local community support, but also for regional funding support owing to its regional significance.


Similarly, the stairs, steps and paths reconstruction project would augment the City's funds to reconstruct older, difficult to maintain facilities in existing public rights of way to make them safer, more effective in a disaster, and easier to maintain into the future. Staff anticipates that replacement of wooden stairs with reinforced concrete stairs with modern code-compliant slopes, landings, handrails and accommodations for the disabled.

One of the cornerstones of the NMTTP is broad community support to facilitate expeditious project completion. Staff recommends the Council adopt resolutions supporting the proposed projects and authorizing Staff to submit proposals to Marin County for NMTTP funds for the Ferry Landing to South City Limit and Steps, Stairs and Paths Reconstruction Projects.

BACKGROUND

The Federal Government created the Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program as an experiment. A goal is to getting more people out of motor vehicles for trips to work, to shop, and to play. Four communities were initially awarded grants to implement the program. Marin County was one of those communities.

In order to assure reasonable consideration of possible activities to create mode shift, Marin County established a task force to identify projects and programs to best achieve the goals of the program. Taking into consideration the recommendations of the task force, the County Supervisors adopted a Project List on April 17, 2007 comprised of 45 projects and programs throughout Marin County. The adopted project list included certain projects within Sausalito administered by the City:

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- Bridgeway to Ferry Improvements - \$200,000
 - Bridgeway Path (Gate 6 to Ferry specific plan) - \$100,000
 - Sausalito Stairs (Filbert to Cazneau and Sausalito Blvd to Prospect (halted))


Additionally, two other projects were implemented on behalf of the City:

- "Way to Go Sausalito" – Public Information Program – Done Summer 2008
- Bike Detection (Bridgeway at Ebbtide/Gate 5 and Bridgeway at Spring)

Staff is continuing to advance the three City administered projects.

The NMTTP is part of the Federal Transportation Bill known as SAFETEA-LU. SAFETEA-LU originally was slated to expire on September 30, 2009. Because a new Transportation Bill has not yet been prepared, Congress extended SAFETEA-LU. That action resulted in the NMTTP receiving additional funds. It is estimated that Marin County will receive 7.5 million dollars more than originally anticipated.

Marin County will be considering how to use these funds later this month (November, 2010). Staff perceives the County's consideration as an opportunity to propose additional NMTTP projects. Based on community feedback there is a need for the following:



Ferry Landing to South City Limits Non-motorized transportation Improvements
Sausalito Stair Rehabilitation (various locations)

ISSUES

Ferry Landing to South City Limit

The South City Limit to Ferry Landing Project will involve public participation in design development, right-of-way evaluation, construction plans, draft specifications, environmental scoping and impact assessment or initial study, and permitting. It is anticipated that the project would likely involve widening of the right-of-way in some locations (primarily Alexander Avenue), construction of retaining walls, widening of the roadway paved section and construction or replacement of sidewalks along portions of the road segment. Segments identified for potential improvements are characterized on the attached annotated photograph sequences.

Other South City Limit to Ferry Landing improvements would include replacement or relocation of underground utility vaults, boxes, fire hydrants, water valves, etc. to improve traction, safety and ride quality for vehicles (including bicycles) as well as walk-quality and safety for pedestrians. The proposed project represents a critical link in a continuous, inter-connected route of travel for pedestrians and bicyclists to and from Sausalito, Fort Baker, and the Golden Gate Bridge. It is also a critical link in a priority interconnection between the Golden Gate Bridge and as far north as Windsor for bicycles and pedestrians. As such, it is not only an

excellent candidate for local community support, but also for regional funding support owing to its regional significance.

Owing to the complexity of the terrain and other constraints on right-of-way, Staff expects that construction of the project will cost more than the currently available Marin County NMTTPP resources. That said, Staff recommends that funding for the design development, right-of-way evaluation, construction plans, draft specifications, environmental scoping and impact assessment or initial study, and permitting to an approximate 30% design level be sought in order to further community consensus and allow for reasonably accurate estimates of the construction costs to support subsequent funding requests. Because of the regional significance of this project and its adjacency to the improvements contemplated by the National Park Service, Staff is confident that this project can compete well for funding as long as community consensus is maintained.

Sausalito Stair Rehabilitation

The City has many stairways. Many of these stairs don't meet building code rise/run guidelines, some are in need of major rehabilitation. Providing major maintenance to the network of existing stairs is rarely controversial and will improve the safety and utility of this existing network of non-motorized transportation routes.

In addition, there are unimproved rights of way that have been suggested for new stairs. But often the advocates for these stairs do not live adjacent to the right-of-way and there is a need to develop an understanding of such stairways on the surrounding properties. Staff considered proposing a planning effort for new stairs but decided against it due to points made with the cancelled Sausalito to Prospect Stair site.

The most appealing NMTTPP projects are the ones that will create new infrastructure that result in measurable mode shift. A stair planning effort would not create measurable mode shift. Stair rehabilitation may.

Should Marin County approve either of the City proposals, funding agreements will need to be executed. As such the attached resolution includes clauses that authorize the City Manager to execute NMTTPP funding agreements on behalf of the City.

FISCAL IMPACT

NMTTPP Projects do not require local match. The projects will be proposed for 100% funding by NMTTPP funds.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

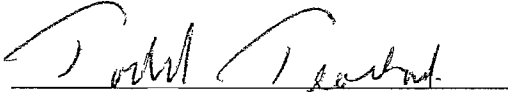
Adopt a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Sausalito Supporting and Authorizing the City Manager to Submit a Project Proposal to the County of Marin for a Grant from Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program Funds for Design Development of the South City

Limits to Ferry Landing Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements Project, and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Necessary Funding Agreements on Behalf of the City.

ATTACHMENTS

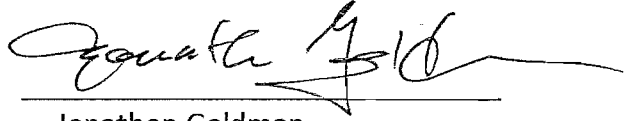
- Resolutions of the City Council of the City of Sausalito
- (A) Supporting and Authorizing the City Manager to Submit:
 - (iii) a Project Proposal to the County of Marin for a Grant from Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program Funds for Design Development of the South City Limits to Ferry Landing Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements Project, and
 - (iv) a Project Proposal to the County of Marin for a Grant from Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program Funds for Replacement of Existing Steps, Stairs and Paths; and
- (B) Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Necessary Funding Agreements on Behalf of the City
- Annotated Photograph Sequences – South City Limits to Second Street

PREPARED BY:



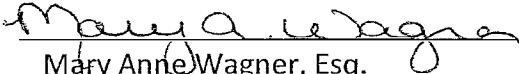
Todd Teachout
City Engineer

REVIEWED BY:



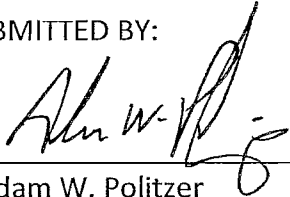
Jonathon Goldman
Director of Public Works

REVIEWED BY:



Mary Anne Wagner, Esq.
City Attorney

SUBMITTED BY:



Adam W. Politzer
City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAUSALITO
SUPPORTING AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT A PROJECT
PROPOSAL TO THE COUNTY OF MARIN FOR A GRANT FROM
NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION PILOT PROGRAM FUNDS FOR DESIGN
DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOUTH CITY LIMITS TO FERRY LANDING BICYCLE
AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT,
AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE NECESSARY FUNDING
AGREEMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY.**

WHEREAS, the County of Marin County was awarded a Federal Transportation grant to implement a Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program (NMTTP) to develop quantifiable transportation mode shift from motorized vehicles to non-motorized vehicles.

WHEREAS, the Marin County Board of Supervisors approved a project and program list to make non-motorized transportation more attractive to travelers in Marin County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sausalito was awarded grant funds to implement projects including the Bridgeway to Ferry Improvement project, Bridgeway Path Plan project, the Sausalito Stair Project; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the extension of the Federal SAFETEA-LU Transportation Bill, Marin County is receiving additional funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sausalito has identified the design and construction of safety and operational improvements for bicyclists and pedestrians from the South City Limit to the Ferry Landing including Alexander Avenue, South Street, Second Street, Richardson and Bridgeway to complement improvements being planned by the National Park Service; and

WHEREAS, said project would address needs identified by many residents and other local stakeholders ranking bicycle and pedestrian safety issues, represent a critical link in a continuous, inter-connected route of travel for pedestrians and bicyclists to and from Sausalito, Fort Baker, and the Golden Gate Bridge and a priority interconnection between the Golden Gate Bridge and as far north as Windsor for bicycles and pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, said project is not only an excellent candidate for local community support, but also for regional funding support owing to its regional significance; and

WHEREAS, said project offers benefits completely consistent with the selection criteria for the NMTTP; and

WHEREAS, the funding for the design development, right-of-way evaluation, construction plans, draft specifications, environmental scoping and impact assessment or initial study, and permitting to an approximate 30% design level is needed in order to further

community consensus and allow for reasonably accurate estimates of the construction costs to support subsequent funding requests; and

WHEREAS, the regional significance of said project and its adjacency to the improvements contemplated by the National Park Service are expected to enhance the prospects for funding as long as community consensus is maintained; and

WHEREAS, if additional funds are awarded to the City it is expected to be required to execute agreements with County of Marin to allow the delegation of the Federal funds from the County to the City; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement between County of Marin and City of Sausalito defines rights and responsibilities with regard to the use of Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Sausalito:

1. Expresses the City's broad community support for the Ferry Landing to South City Limit Non-Motorized Transportation Project, the regional significance of the project and its adjacency to improvements in planning by the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, its desire for expeditious project completion, and the need for design development, right-of-way evaluation, construction plans, draft specifications, environmental scoping and impact assessment or initial study, and permitting to an approximate 30% design level to further community consensus and allow for reasonably accurate estimates of the construction costs to support subsequent funding requests.
2. Authorizes the City Manager to submit this Resolution of Support and other documents necessary to the County of Marin in order to apply for the funds necessary for said project and to execute an agreement on behalf of the City.

AYES: Councilmembers:
 NOES: Councilmembers:
 ABSTAIN: Councilmembers:

 Mayor, City of Sausalito

ATTEST:

 City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAUSALITO
SUPPORTING AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT A PROJECT
PROPOSAL TO THE COUNTY OF MARIN FOR A GRANT FROM
NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION PILOT PROGRAM FUNDS FOR THE
REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING STEPS, STAIRS AND PATHS PROJECT,
AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE NECESSARY FUNDING
AGREEMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY.**

WHEREAS, the County of Marin County was awarded a Federal Transportation grant to implement a Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program (NMTPP) to develop quantifiable transportation mode shift from motorized vehicles to non-motorized vehicles.

WHEREAS, the Marin County Board of Supervisors approved a project and program list to make non-motorized transportation more attractive to travelers in Marin County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sausalito was awarded grant funds to implement projects including the Bridgeway to Ferry Improvement project, Bridgeway Path Plan project, the Sausalito Stair Project; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the extension of the Federal SAFETEA-LU Transportation Bill, Marin County is receiving additional funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sausalito has identified the need for reconstruction of existing steps, stairs and paths as a priority in its efforts to promote and enhance an existing network of walking infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, said project would address needs identified by many residents and other local stakeholders ranking bicycle and pedestrian safety issues, represent a critical existing link in a continuous, inter-connected route of travel for pedestrians to and from neighborhoods, business districts, points of interest, and points of assembly in and near Sausalito; and

WHEREAS, said project is an excellent candidate for local community support; and

WHEREAS, said project offers benefits completely consistent with the selection criteria for the NMTPP; and

WHEREAS, the funding for the design development, right-of-way evaluation, construction plans, draft specifications, environmental scoping and impact assessment or initial study, and permitting to an approximate 30% design level is needed in order to further community consensus and allow for reasonably accurate estimates of the construction costs to support subsequent funding requests; and

WHEREAS, if additional funds are awarded to the City it is expected to be required to execute agreements with County of Marin to allow the delegation of the Federal funds from the County to the City; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement between County of Marin and City of Sausalito defines rights and responsibilities with regard to the use of Non-Motorized Transportation Pilot Program funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Sausalito:

1. Expresses the City's broad community support for the Steps, Stairs and Paths Reconstruction Non-Motorized Transportation Project, its desire for expeditious project completion, and the need for design development, right-of-way evaluation, construction plans, draft specifications, environmental scoping and impact assessment or initial study, and permitting to an approximate 30% design level to further community consensus and allow for reasonably accurate estimates of the construction costs to support subsequent funding requests.
2. Authorizes the City Manager to submit this Resolution of Support and other documents necessary to the County of Marin in order to apply for the funds necessary for said project and to execute an agreement on behalf of the City.

AYES: Councilmembers:

NOES: Councilmembers:

ABSTAIN: Councilmembers:

Mayor, City of Sausalito

ATTEST:

City Clerk